

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Any cancellation of claims is made without prejudice or disclaimer. All rights are reserved to the original disclosed and claimed subject matter.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-7 (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) A method for providing measured values for end customers, comprising the steps of:

recording a measured value for a process variable using a sensor S1, S2, S3;
transmitting the measured value to a process control system PLS;
counting the number A of transmission operations; and
calculating the costs for the end customer on the basis of the number A of the transmission operations.

9. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 8, wherein the data transmission between sensor S1, S2, S3 and the process control system PLS takes place in line-conducted fashion, using, for example, a data bus system DBS.

10. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 8, wherein the data transmission between sensor S1, S2, S3 and the process control system PLS takes place by radio.

11. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 8, wherein the number A is stored in the sensor S1, S2, S3.

12. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 9, wherein the number A is stored in the sensor S1, S2, S3.

13. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 10, wherein the number A is stored in the sensor S1, S2, S3.

14. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 8, wherein the number A is stored in process control system PLS.

15. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 9, wherein the number A is stored in process control system PLS.

16. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 8, wherein the measured values are transmitted over the internet from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which data base at the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted.

17. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 9, wherein the measured values are transmitted over the internet from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which data base at the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted.

18. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 10, wherein the measured values are transmitted over the internet from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which data base at the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted.

19. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 11, wherein the measured values are transmitted over the internet from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which data base at the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted.

20. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 12, wherein the measured values are transmitted over the internet from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which data base at the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted.

21. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 8, wherein the measured values are transmitted by radio from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which data base at the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted.

22. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 9, wherein the measured values are transmitted by radio from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which data base at the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted.

23. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 10, wherein the measured values are transmitted by radio from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which data base at the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted.

24. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 11, wherein the measured values are transmitted by radio from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which data base at the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted.

25. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 12, wherein the measured values are transmitted by radio from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which data base at the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted.

26. (Previously presented) A method for selling measured values to end customers, comprising the steps of:

recording a measured value for a process variable using a sensor S1, S2, S3;
transmitting the measured value to a process control system PLS;
counting the number A of transmission operations; and
calculating the costs for the end customer on the basis of the number A of the transmission operations.

27. (Previously presented) The method as defined in claim 8, wherein the recorded measured value for the process variable is stored in the sensor used to record the measured value.

28. (Previously presented) The method as defined in claim 27, wherein the number A of the transmission operations stored in the sensor used to record the measured value is counted in the sensor.

29. (Previously presented) The method as defined in claim 8, wherein the number A of the transmission operations is counted in the process control system PLS.